

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 H-02 NEA-10 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8887

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5698

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UR

SUBJ: PANOV INTERROGATION AND NEW LAW; YEVGENIY LEVICH;
JEWISH EMIGRATION

REF: STATE 9 2631 AND 95266

1. MOSCOW JEWISH SOURCES CONFIRM THAT BALTTER DANCER PANOV INTERROGATED MAY 14 BY LENINGRAD KGB. DURING SEESION, THEY REPORT, PANOV WAS GIVEN WRITTEN STATMENT SPECIFICALLY WARNING HIM AGAINST PROVIDING INFORMATION TO FOREIGN CONTACTS WHICH COULD EVENTUALLY BE USED AGAINST USSR. STATEMENT, WHICH PANOV HAD TO READ AND RETURN, INDICATED WARNING WAS BASED ON IAJZ OF USSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM DATED DECEMBER 25, 1972.

2. LOCAL SOURCES INDICATE THIS FIRST INFORMATION THEY HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT UKAZ. IN ATTEMPT OBTAIN DETAILS, SMALL GROUP OF MOSCOW JEWS SUBSEQUENLY VISITED RECEPTION OFFICE OF USSR PROSECUTOR GENERAL. OFFICIAL WHO RECEIVED THEM REPORTEDLY CONFIRMED EXISTANCE OF UKAZ BUT SAID IT APPLIED TO WORK OF KGB AND ACCORDINGLY REFERRED THEM TO KGB HEADQUARTERS FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

3. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO JEWISH EMIGRATION, SOURCES SAID THAT AS OF EVENING MAY 17 SONE OF ACADEMICIAN LEVICH STILL NOT LOCATED AFTER BEING HUSTLED INTO UNMARKED
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CAR BY GROUP OF " CIVILIANS" ON MAY 16. TELEPHONE CALL BY FATHER ON MAY 17 TO MILITARY SECTION OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE ELICITED RESPONSES THAT SON HAD BEEN SENT TO TRANSBAYKAL MILITARY DISTRICT FOR PROCESSING AS RECRUIT. (EMBASSY POUCHING TO EUR/ SOV APPEAL TO PRESIDENT NIXON FROM MRS. LEVICH ON BEHALF OF HER SON WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED.)

4. SOURCES ALSO REPORT SHARP INCREASE IN DAILY RATE OF EXIT VISA REFUSLAS EMANATING FROM MOSCOW OVIR. ACCORDING TO THEM, RATE NOW RUNNING AT LEVEL OF TEN REFUSLAS PER DAY, ABOUT DOUBLE PREVIOUS LEVEL, WHILE NUMBER OF EXIT VISAS GRANTED REMAINS LOW. (COMMENT: THIS TO SOME EXTENT CONTRADICTS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DUTCH EMBASSY REPORTED IN MOSCOW 5434.) SOME REFUSLAS REPORTEDLY BASED ON GROUND THAT APPLICANT HAD NOT PROVED CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO SPONSOR IN ISRAEL. SORUCES SAY THEY HAVE COMPILED LIST OF ABOUT 250 FAMILIES WHICH REPRESENTS ALL KNOWN HARD- CORE CASES WHICH WHERE DIFFICULTY BEING ENCOUNTERED IN OBTAINING EXIT PERMISSION.

5. LOCAL JEWS SHOWING INCREASING CONCERN AT SERIES OF TRIALS OF JEWS INTERESTED IN EMIGRATING WHICH, THEY CLAIM, FORMING RING THAT THIS MOVING CLOSER TO MOSCOW. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS INCREASINGLY SERIOUS NATURE OF CHARGES USED BY PROSECUTION, I. E., TREASON AND ANTI- STATE AGITATION LEVIED AGSINST SHKOLNIK IN RECENT TRIAL IN VINNITSA. NOW AUTHORITIES PREPARING TRIAL AGSINST (FNU) KIPNUS IN MINSK. SOURCES CLAIM ABOUT 60 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN INTERROGATED ALREADY, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS IN RIGA , MOSCOW, MOGILEV, AND KHABAROVSK. AUTHORITIES ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTING TO PROVE THAT KIPNUS WAS INVOLVED IN ORGANIZING ZIONIST NETWORK IN USSR.

6. CONCERNING 42 JEWISH PRISONERS NOW SERVING SENTENCES IN LABOR CAMPS, SOURCES DESCRIBED THEIR PLIGHT AS OF INCREASING CONCERN. AUTHORITIES ATTEMPT TO ISOLATE THEM FROM OUTSIDE WORLD BY BARRING LETTERS AND VISITS. ADDITIONALLY, CAMPAIGN SEEMS ON TO ENCOURGAGE OR TO FORCE RELATIVES, WHO ARE ONLY LINK WITH OUTSIDE WORLD, TO EMIGRATE. LATEST SUCH CASE REPORTEDLY INVOLVES PARENTS OF LENINGRAD HIJACK TRIAL DEFENDANT MENDELEVICH, WHO HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF SOVIET CITIZENSHIP AND ORDERED TO DEPART CONTRY BY MAY 25.
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7. SORUCES UNDERSTAND THAT SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF RECENT RETURNEES FROM ISRAEL HAVE BEEN SENT TO BIROBIDZHNA FOR RESETTLEMENT.

8. WITHING PAST WEEK EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED TWO REPORTS THAT

MOSCOW DOCUMENTARY FILM STUDIO HAS COMPLETED WORK ON FILM ENTITLED " BEWARE ZIONISM." LCOAL SORUCES REPORT FILM HAS BEEN SCREENED FOR OFFICIALS REVIEW AND DESCRIBE IT AS HIGHLY ANTI- SEMTIC.

9. COMMENT: VIRTUALLY ALL ABOVE INFORMATION COMES FROM INDIVIDUALS ACTIVE IN JEWISH EMIGRATION MOVEMENT. WHILE WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOBUT VERACTIY OF THEIR INFORMATION, IT SHOULD BE EVALUATED IN CONTEXT OF THEIR EFFORTS TO STIMULATE MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR THEIR POSITION.
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